

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 22, 2015

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: SANDRA MARKS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #6 – ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

ISSUE: Update on City of Alexandria Transit Development Plan (TDP)

BACKGROUND: The Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) requires any City or transit agency providing transit service in Virginia to develop a six-year TDP. A TDP is used to help transit operators around the country improve their efficiency and effectiveness by identifying the need and required resources for modifying and enhancing services provided to the general public. These plans also provide a solid foundation for funding requests and feed directly into the programming process. An approved TDP is a prerequisite for state operating and capital assistance and applying for DRPT-funded grant opportunities.

Consultant support for the development of the City's TDP is funded and managed by DRPT staff. Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) – Transit Services, DASH, and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) staff are members of the Project Management Team and have been responsible for providing data and feedback and reviewing project deliverables.

The TDP will serve as a policy document intended to guide and inform capital and operating funding decisions for all transit services that operate in the City of Alexandria, including DASH, Metrobus, Metrorail, MetroAccess, DOT Paratransit, Fairfax Connector, Virginia Railways Express (VRE), and Amtrak.

To date the project team has developed an overview of existing conditions, reviewed and provided feedback on the origin and destination patterns for trips to and from the City, and is engaged in an ongoing discussion to develop reasonable, fiscally constrained transit funding scenarios. Upon completion and approval of the TDP, the City will provide an annual update to

DRPT that will include the status of capital projects and any service enhancements that have been implemented.

The project team has provided a Draft version and summary of the TDP in advance of the July 22, 2015 Transportation Commission meeting. Feedback from the Transportation Commission will be incorporated into the Final TDP and the project team will be seeking an endorsement by the Commission prior to seeking an endorsement by both the Alexandria Transit Company Board and Council.